

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/363,411

Examiner

Xu Mei

Applicant(s)

FISCHER ET AL.

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment dated 11/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 43-85.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 7/29/09 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20041116
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Xu Mei
Primary Examiner
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1. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Raymond Mah on 12/10/2004.

3. In the Claims:

Claims 67 and 82 have been replaced with the followings:

67. (Currently amended) In an interface device having a digital data processor and a digital memory for transferring audio information to tape equipment designed to process signals from magnetic storage media, the method comprising the steps of:

rotating a first rotating member;

rotating a belt linked to **[a second] the first** rotating member so as to drive a second rotating member;

sensing the motion of said belt and coupling a signal indicative thereof to a digital data processor; and

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accessing an audio selection stored in a digital memory under the control of said digital data processor for presentation to a user based on at least the signal.

82. (Currently amended) For use with a device for insertion into an audio tape player having a plurality of user controls and for responding to user actuation of one of said controls to place said audio tape player in a state to initiate a selected operation when a cassette has been inserted into said player, a method for operating said device comprising the steps of:

rotating a rotating member within the tape player;

rotating a belt in [an emulation] the device linked to said rotating member;

detecting the motion of said belt; and

determining [the] a current state of the tape player based at least in part on the detected belt motion.

4. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The amendment made above is to correct minor claims informalities. The prior art fails to teach or disclose a digital cassette type emulation device with a motion sensor for

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sensor for monitoring or sensing the motion of a linking member or a belt that connected to rotating members of the device, and used the sensed motion signal to control the output of audio information stored the device. The prior art disclose various digital cassette emulation device for audio signals processing, but fails to suggest the instant claimed invention.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xu Mei whose telephone number is 703-308-6610. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9:30-6:00), alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester W Isen can be reached on 703-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access

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to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at
866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Xu Mei
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2644
12/10/04